

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

The examiner in his office action dated July 27, 2005 indicated the subject matter of dependent claims 3, 5 and 7 as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of those claims and any intervening claims.

By the instant amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended so as to include the subject matter of indicated allowable dependent claim 5 which depended directly from independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is submitted that independent claim 1 is now allowable.

Applicants have added new independent claim 8. Independent claim 8 corresponds to indicated allowable dependent claim 3 rewritten in independent form and including the limitations of intervening dependent claim 2. Accordingly, claim 8 is allowable.

New independent claim 9 corresponds to dependent claim 7 rewritten in independent form and including the limitations of intervening dependent claim 6. Accordingly, independent claim 9 is allowable. Dependent claims 2-7 depend either directly or indirectly from one or more of independent claims 1, 8 and 9 and, therefore, are likewise allowable.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that all of the claims as pending, claims 1-9, are now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in

this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,
Jürgen Miklo et al.


By _____

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I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on October 17, 2005.

